

Less-Known Uses of Some Exotic Plants from Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra: Part – II (E-Z)

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ABSTRACT

In continuation with the earlier paper (Part – I), the present paper provides 47 less known ethnobotanical uses of 38 species utilised by the people of Ahmednagar region. For each species correct botanical name, vernacular name, family name and used are given.

Key words: Exotic, plant species, uses, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India.

INTRODUCTION

In Part – I of the paper the relevant details, concerning less known ethnobotanical uses of 42 species ((A-K), used for medicine and other purposes by the forest dwellers of Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra state was given. While in present paper the data for 46 less known used of 38 species (E-Z) is given. The methodology and the presentation of data followed in the present paper is the same as in Part –I.

43. *Echinops echinatus* Roxb. 'Utanti'.
ASTERACEAE.
Native: Afghanistan.
Uses : Dyspepsia: 20-30ml extract of plant is taken before meal twice a day for 4-5 days.

44. *Emilia sonchifolia* Gaertn. 'Sadmandi'.
ASTERACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use: Intermittent fever: 20-30ml extract of leaves and roots taken twice a day for 3-4 days.
45. *Erythrina variegata* L. 'Pangara'.
FABACEAE.
Native: Malasia.
Use: Fish poison: inner stem bark crushed and thrown in small ponds or stagnant water for catching fishes.
46. *Euphorbia hirta* L. 'Dudhi'.
EUPHORBIACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use: Constipation: Plant crushed to paste and given as an enema for 2-3 days.

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47. **Ficus carica** L. 'Anjir' MORACEAE.
Native: Medeterrenean region
Uses :
 a) Jaundice: 1ml of with lates of unripe fruit mixed together and taken with water once a day for 8-10 days.
 b) Leucorrhoea: 20-30 ml decoction of stem bark taken orally once a day for 10 days.
48. **Ficus religiosa** L. 'Pimpal'. MORACEAE.
Native : Sri Lanka.
Use: Veterinary removal of placenta: Half liter of inner stem bark extract with jaggary given to cattle to remove the placenta after delivery.
49. **Grewia abutilifolia** Vent. ex A. Juss. 'Chikankharata', TILIACEAE.
Native : Malaya.
Use : Leucorrhea: 1gm of root powder given with cow milk once a day for 10-15 days.
50. **Heliotropium indicum** L. 'Burandi', BORAGINACEAE.
Native: America.
Use : Intestinal worms: 30-40ml of leaf extract with seeds of *Trachyspermum roxburghianum* taken in equal proportion given once a day for 3-4 days.
51. **Jatropha curcas** L. 'Jangli Erand'. EUPHORBIACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Uses:
 a) Intestinal worms: 20-30ml root extract given to children between the age of 4 to 12 years, once a day for 2 days.
 b) Urinary disorders: about half cup of leaf decoction taken once a day for 4-5 days in treating burning sensation while urination.
52. **Kalanchoe pinnata** (Lam.) Pers. 'Panphuti'. CRASSULACEAE.
Native: Africa.
Use: Urinary bladder stone: 30-40ml extrect of leaf with pinch of salt taken once a day for 10-15 days.
53. **Kirganelia reticulata** (Poir.) Baill. 'Panjali', EUPHORBIACEAE.
Native: Tropics.
54. **Lannea coromandelica** (Houtt.) Merr. 'Shimti'. ANACARDIACEAE.
Native: Myanmar.
Use : Fish poison: Unripe fruits are crushed and used as a fish poison.
55. **Lantana camara** L. var. *aculeata* (L.) Moldenke, 'Tantani'. VERBANACEAE.
Native: America.
Use: Jaundice: 20-30ml of leaf extract taken once a day for 8-9 days.
56. **Mimosa pudica** L. 'Lajalu'. MIMOSACEAE.
Native: South America.
Uses:
 a) Cuts and injuries: Root decoction is used as poultice to wash wounds, it acts as an antiseptic.
 b) Menorrhagea: leaves tender twigs and roots are ground together and mixed with jaggary in 2:1 proportion. Then pills of 1gm each are formed and taken twice a day for 15 days.
57. **Moringa oleifera** Lam. 'Kadipatta'. MORINGACEAE.
Native: Africa, Madagascar.
Use : Joint pain: Flowers are crushed and used for massage for joints to treat joint pains.
58. **Morus alba** L. 'Tuti', MORACEAE.
Native: Myanmar.
Use : Tonsils and mumps: 20-30ml of extract of handful leaves and 5-6 black pepper taken twice a day for 5-6 days.
59. **Ocimum americanum** L.). 'Ran-Tulas'. LAMIACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use: Tooth ache: Leaves chewed thrice a day it reduces pain and swelling of gums.
60. **Opuntia stricta** (Haw.) Haw. 'Niwdung', CACTACEAE.
Native: America.
Uses :
 a) Dandruff: Flower paste is applied on salp and then washed after half an hour thrice a week for two weeks.

- b) Hair fall: Flower paste is applied regularly to treat hair fall.
61. ***Oxalis corniculata*** L.. 'Ambushi'.
OXALIDACEAE.
Native: North America.
Uses:
a) Conjunctivitis: 1-2 drops of leaf juice instilled in eye twice a day for 2-3 days.
b) Common cold: 1gm of plant powder taken with water twice a day for 2-3 days.
c) Urinary disorders: Half tea cup of extract taken once a day for a week period for treating burning sensation while urination.
62. ***Pedaliium murex*** L. 'Gokharu',
PEDALIACEAE.
Native: Africa.
Use : Seminal weakness: 20-30ml of plant extract with sugar and water taken once a day for 7-8 days.
63. ***Peristrophe paniculata*** (Forsk.) Brummitt.
'Chirchiri', ACANTHACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use : Wounds: Leaf paste is applied.
64. ***Rhynchosia minima*** (L.) DC. 'Papari',
FABACEAE.
Native: Paleotropical.
Use : Loose motions: 10-20ml of root extract is given twice a day for 2 days.
65. ***Ricinus communis*** L. 'Erend'.
EUPHORBIACEAE.
Native: Tropical Africa.
Use: Swelling of joints in cattle: Leaves boiled in water and that lukewarm water is poured over joints for 10-25 days.
66. ***Santalum album*** L. 'Chandan'.
SANTALACEAE.
Native: Malasia, Australia.
Use: Mumps: Sandal wood powder mixed with the water remains after rice cooking is applied till cure.
67. ***Sapindus emarginatus*** Vahl, 'Reetha'.
SAPINDACEAE.
Native: Tropical Asia.
Use : Fish poison: Unripe fruits are crushed and used as a fish poison.
68. ***Scoparia dulcis*** L. 'Atisirsā',
SCROPHULARIACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use : Loose motions: 20-30ml extract of leaves taken twice a day for 2 days.
69. ***Sesbania grandiflora*** (L.) Poir..
'Hatga'.FABACEAE.
Native: Malesia.
Use : Sleepless ness: Leavs are crushed in water and applied over scalp to induce good sleep.
70. ***Sida acuta*** Burm. f. 'Bala'.
MALVACEAE.
Native : Tropical America.
Use : Hyper acidity: 20-30ml of leaf extract taken before meal twice a day for 3 days.
71. ***Spilanthes calva*** DC. 'Akalkara',
ASTERACEAE.
Native: South America.
Use : Sore throat: Flowers crushed and mixed in honey taken in mouth and engulfed slowly twice a day for 3 days.
72. ***Syzygium cumini*** (L.) Skeels , 'Jambhul'.
MYRTACEAE.
Native: Jamaica.
Use : Leucorrhoea: 1-2 gm seed powder taken with cow milk once a day for 15 days.
73. ***Tagetus petula*** L. 'Jhendu',
ASTERACEAE.
Native: Mexico.
Use : Urinary disorders: flower and roots crushed together to prepare extract which is given (30ml) with water once a day it increases urinary flow.
74. ***Tridax procumbens*** L. 'Dagadipala'.
ASTERACEAE.
Native: South America.
Use: Kidney stone: 10-15ml of leaf juice with with a glass full water taken once a day for 15 days, it dissolves kidney stone.
75. ***Urena lobata*** L. 'Rankapas',
MALVACEAE.
Native: Tropical America.
Use : Wounds: tender twigs and roots crushed to make paste and applied over wounds.

76. *Vernonia cinerea* (L.) Less. 'Sahadevi'.

ASTERACEAE.

Native: Tropics.

Use: Boils: Leaf paste is applied till cure.

77. *Veronica anagalis-aquatica* L. 'Ran',

SCROPHULARIACEAE.

Native: America.

Use : Fish Poison: Leaves are crushed and thrown in small ponds for catching fishes.

78. *Vetiveria zizanoides* (L.) Nash. 'Wala'.

POACEAE.

Native: China.

Use : Fertility in women: 25-30 gm of seeds, 4-5 black pepper crushed together and mixed in jaggary, taken once a day for 10 days for conception.

79. *Xanthium indicum* Koen.

'Shankeshwar'. ASTERACEAE.

Native: Europe, South America.

Use: Gum swelling: Leaf paste is applied over painful gums twice a day for 2-3 days.

80. *Ziziphus mauritiana* Lam. 'Bor',

RHAMNACEAE.

Native: Africa.

Uses:

- a) Tooth ache: Root bark decoction with pinch of salt used for gargaling thrice a day for tooth ache and for bad smell from mouth.
- b) Bone fracture: Leaf paste is applied over fractured bone and plaster is made by using bamboo stips, cotton cloth and jute thread. It is kept as such for 15 days for recovery.
- c) Fits: 10-20ml of leaf decoction is given once a day for 15 days.

DISCUSSION

The two parts in the series give a total of 103 new or less known uses of 80 plant species belonging to 76 genera. Lack of mention of these uses in a major literature published adds significance to the work and indicates the need of thorough investigations on medicinal plants of the region for active principles.

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